

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel Claim 7.

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Rewrite Claim 1 as follows:

Sub
B1

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1. (Amended) A sports racket, comprising;

a frame defining a rounded opening of predetermined shape with a vertical axis
and a horizontal axis;

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a handle secured to the frame and lying at least substantially along the vertical
axis; and strings supported by the frame and suspended within said opening, said
strings being arranged in two parallel, interwoven groups, wherein strings of the
first group intersect a reference line parallel to the horizontal axis at an angle of
about 49-60 degrees above said reference line and strings of the second group
intersect the reference line at an angle of about 49-60 degrees below the reference
line, the intersection angle is selected to completely eliminate distortion.

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Rewrite Claim 10 as follows:

Claim 10. (Amended) A method for diagonal stringing of a sports racket, said
strings being arranged in two parallel intersecting groups, said method comprising:

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creating a diagonal stringing pattern with a nominal intersection angle between
the strings, including a representation of at least substantially all strings of
the racket to be strung;

applying said stringing pattern to a first racket frame of a construction type;

determining an intersection point for each string representation with the frame;

5 providing string holes in the frame at said intersection points;

stringing the racket through said string holes;

10 tensioning the strings and measuring distortion of the frame;

re-stringing the racket to eliminate any measured distortion, said re-stringing comprising changing the intersection angle between the strings by passing each string through a hole offset from the hole corresponding to the nominal intersection angle in said stringing pattern, while maintaining said strings in each group in parallel relationship;

re-tensioning the strings; and

measuring distortion and re-stringing so that said strings are arranged in two parallel, interwoven groups, wherein strings of the first group intersect a reference line parallel to the horizontal axis at an angle of about 49-60 degrees above said reference line and strings of the second group intersect the reference line at an angle of about 49-60 degrees below the reference

line, in order to achieve an angular relationship, whereby frame is not distorted

Add independent, NEW Claim 15 as follows:

5 W/B
B O X
Claim 15. (New)

A sports racket, comprising;

10 a frame defining a rounded opening of predetermined shape with a vertical axis and a horizontal axis;

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15 a handle secured to the frame and lying at least substantially along the vertical axis; and strings supported by the frame and suspended within said opening, said strings being arranged in two parallel, interwoven groups, wherein strings of the first group intersect a reference line parallel to the horizontal axis at an angle of about 49-60 degrees above said reference line and strings of the second group intersect the reference line at an angle of about 49-60 degrees below the reference line in order to achieve

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said angular relationships,
whereby the frame is not distorted